

In the Drawings:

Please cancel Figure 4.

Please cancel Figure 5.

In the Claims:

Please cancel claims 1-35.

Please enter the following new claims:

*Sub B7* ~~36.~~ An antibody that is immunoreactive with a RANKL polypeptide as shown in SEQ ID NO:13.

37. An antibody according to claim 36, which is a monoclonal antibody.

*Sub B8* 38. A method for preparing an antibody according to claim 36, wherein the antibody is elicited by immunizing with a RANKL polypeptide selected from the group consisting of:

- a) a polypeptide comprising amino acids 1-317 of SEQ ID NO:13;
- b) a polypeptide comprising amino acids 69-313 of SEQ ID NO:13;
- c) a polypeptide comprising amino acids 1-162 of SEQ ID NO:13;
- d) a polypeptide comprising amino acids 162-313 of SEQ ID NO:13;
- e) a polypeptide comprising amino acids 138-317 of SEQ ID NO:13;
- f) a polypeptide comprising amino acids x to y of SEQ ID NO:13, wherein x is an amino terminal amino acid between 69 and 162 of SEQ ID NO:13, and y is a carboxy terminal amino acid between 313 and 317 of SEQ ID NO:13
- g) a polypeptide encoded by a nucleic acid molecule that is capable of hybridizing under stringent conditions to a DNA having a nucleotide sequence as shown in SEQ ID NO:12 or its complement, wherein stringent conditions comprise hybridizing in 6 X SSC at 63°C and washing in 3 X SSC at 55°C.

39. An antibody that is immunoreactive with a RANKL polypeptide as shown in SEQ ID NO:11.

*B* 40. An antibody according to claim 39, which is a monoclonal antibody.